

Message Text

SECRET

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ORIGIN SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 NSCE-00 /031 R

DRAFTED BY EA:GMARTIN:FMT

APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY

S/S - MR. EAGLEBURGER

EA - MR. HUMMEL

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Z 091725Z AUG 74 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SAIGON FLASH

S E C R E T STATE 174064

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

FOR CHARGE

1. PLEASE DELIVER IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM THE
PRESIDENT TO PRESIDENT THIEU. IF RECIPIENT NOT AVAILABLE,
DELIVER TO HIGHEST OFFICIAL AVAILABLE.

2. BEGIN TEXT: DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: AS I ASSUME THE OFFICE
OF PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, ONE OF MY FIRST THOUGHTS
CONCERNS THE SAVAGE ATTACKS YOUR ARMED FORCES ARE NOW
SUCCESSFULLY RESISTING WITH SUCH COURAGE AND BRAVERY. I DO
NOT THINK I REALLY NEED TO INFORM YOU THAT AMERICAN FOREIGN
POLICY HAS ALWAYS BEEN MARKED BY ITS ESSENTIAL CONTINUITY
AND ITS ESSENTIAL BIPARTISAN NATURE. THIS IS EVEN MORE
TRUE TODAY AND THE EXISTING COMMITMENTS THIS NATION HAS MADE
IN THE PAST ARE STILL VALID AND WILL BE FULLY HONORED IN MY
ADMINISTRATION.

THESE REASSURANCES

- ARE PARTICULARLY RELEVANT TO THE REPUBLIC

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OF VIETNAM. WE HAVE TRAVELED A LONG AND HARD ROAD TOGETHER.

I HAVE LISTENED TO AMBASSADOR MARTIN'S REPORT ON THE REMARK-
ABLE PROGRESS THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM HAS MADE UNDER YOUR

LEADERSHIP. IN THE PERIOD SINCE THE SIGNING OF THE PARIS
AGREEMENTS, I HAVE BEEN HEARTENED BY HIS REPORT OF YOUR
PERSONAL DETERMINATION TO CONTINUE THE IMPROVEMENT OF YOUR
GOVERNMENTAL PROCESSES TO INSURE THAT OUR AID, AND THE
INCREASING AID WE CONFIDENTLY EXPECT FROM OTHER DONOR
COUNTRIES, CAN BE RAPIDLY AND EFFECTIVELY UTILIZED TO
BRING THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE ECONOMY TO A SELF-SUSTAINING
LEVEL IN THE NEXT FEW YEARS. AS THE PROFESSIONAL EFFI-
CIENCY, THE HIGH MORALE, AND THE COMBAT EFFECTIVENESS
OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM BECOME
INCREASINGLY EVIDENT TO THE LEADERS OF THE DEMOCRATIC
REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM IN HANOI, IT IS MY EARNEST HOPE
THAT THEY WILL AGREE TO RETURN TO PARTICIPATION IN THE
MACHANISMS SET UP BY THE PARIS AGREEMENTS AND BEGIN TO
SERIOUSLY WORK OUT WITH YOU MODALITIES FOR THE FULL AND
COMPLETE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PARIS AGREEMENTS WHICH I
KNOW IS YOUR DESIRE.

I KNOW YOU MUST BE CONCERNED BY THE INITIAL STEPS TAKEN BY
THE CONGRESS ON THE CURRENT FISCAL YEAR APPROPRIATIONS
FOR BOTH ECONOMIC AND MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO THE REPUBLIC
OF VIETNAM. OUR LEGISLATIVE PROCESS IS A COMPLICATED ONE
AND IT IS NOT YET COMPLETED. ALTHOUGH IT MAY TAKE A
LITTLE TIME I DO WANT TO REASSURE YOU OF MY CONFIDENCE
THAT IN THE END OUR SUPPORT WILL BE ADEQUATE ON BOTH
COUNTS.

IN THESE IMPORTANT ENDEAVORS I SHALL LOOK TO DR. KISSINGER,
WHOM I HAVE ASKED TO REMAIN AS SECRETARY OF STATE, FOR
GUIDANCE AND SUPPORT. HE HAS MY FULLEST CONFIDENCE, AS
DOES AMBASSADOR MARTIN.

SINCERELY, GERALD R. FORD END TEXT KISSINGER

SECRET

NNN

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